

## CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. In a data processing system having a central processing unit, memory, at least one user output device, and a user input device, a method for retrieving and presenting stored documents on a plurality of output devices each requiring different presentation parameters, comprising the steps of:

    parsing a document into one or more objects;  
    parsing each object into one or more units;  
    storing said units according to processing requirements of each said unit;

    classifying connected presentation devices;  
    receiving a request from a said presentation device;  
    assembling said document from said stored units; and  
    sending said assembled document to said presentation device.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein parsing each object into one or more units, further comprises:

    determining type of each said unit.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein storing said units according to processing requirements of each said unit, further comprise:

    storing said units, requiring less processing to convert to device-dependent format, in device-independent format; and

    storing said units, requiring more processing to convert to device-dependent format, in device-dependent format.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein classifying said

2 connected presentation devices, further comprise:

3 determining acceptable document formats for said  
4 connected presentation devices; and

5 classifying said devices according to device-dependent  
6 characteristics

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein receiving a request from  
2 said connected presentation device for said target document,  
3 further comprises:

4 determining whether said peripheral device is known or  
5 unknown.

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1 6. In a data processing system having a central processing  
2 unit, memory, at least one user output device, and a user  
3 input device, a system for retrieving and presenting stored  
4 documents on a plurality of output devices each requiring  
5 different presentation parameters, comprising:

6 logic means for parsing a document into one or more  
7 objects;

8 means for parsing each object into one or more  
9 units;

10 storage means for storing said units according to  
11 processing requirements of each said unit;

12 discrimination means for classifying connected  
13 presentation devices;

14 receiving means for receiving a request from said  
15 presentation devices;

16 logic means for assembling said document from said  
17 stored units; and

18 transmitting means for sending said assembled document  
19 to said presentation device.

20 7. The system of claim 6, wherein logic means for parsing  
21 each object into one or more units, further comprises:

22 comparison means for determining type of each said  
23 unit.

24 8. The system of claim 6, wherein storage means for  
25 storing said units according to processing requirements of  
26 each said unit, further comprise:

27 means for storing said units, requiring less processing  
28 to convert to device-dependent format, in device-independent  
29 format; and

30 means for storing said units, requiring more processing

8 to convert to device-dependent format, in device-dependent  
9 format.

1 9. The system of claim 6, wherein discrimination means for  
2 classifying said connected presentation devices, further  
3 comprise:

4 comparison means for determining acceptable document  
5 formats for said connected presentation devices; and

6 classification means for classifying said devices  
7 according to device-dependent characteristics

1 10. The system of claim 6, wherein receiving means for  
2 receiving a request from said connected presentation device  
3 for said target document, further comprises:

4 means for determining whether said peripheral device is  
5 known or unknown.

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1 11. In a data processing system having a central processing  
2 unit, memory, at least one user output device, and a user  
3 input device, a computer program product within a computer  
4 readable medium having instructions for retrieving and  
5 presenting stored documents on a plurality of output devices  
6 each requiring different presentation parameters, comprising  
7 the steps of:

8 instructions within said computer program product for  
9 parsing a document into one or more objects; and

10 instructions within said computer program product  
11 for parsing each object into one or more units;

12 instructions within said computer program product for  
13 storing said units according to processing requirements of  
14 each said unit;

15 instructions within said computer program product for  
16 classifying connected presentation devices;

17 instructions within said computer program product for  
18 receiving a request from a said presentation device;

19 instructions within said computer program product for  
20 assembling said document from said stored units; and

21 instructions within said computer program product for  
22 sending said assembled document to said presentation device.

1 12. The computer program product of claim 11, wherein  
2 instructions for parsing each object into one or more units,  
3 further comprises:

4 instructions within said computer program product for  
5 determining type of each said unit.

1 13. The computer program product of claim 11, wherein  
2 instructions for storing said units according to processing  
3 requirements of each said unit, further comprises:

4 instructions within said computer program product for

5 storing said units, requiring less processing to convert to  
6 device-dependent format , in device-independent format; and  
7 instructions within said computer program product for  
8 storing said units, requiring more processing to convert to  
9 device-dependent format, in device-dependent format.

1 14. The computer program product of claim 11, wherein  
2 instructions for classifying said connected presentation  
3 devices, further comprises:

4 instructions within said computer program product for  
5 determining acceptable document formats for said connected  
6 presentation devices; and

7 instructions within said computer program product for  
8 classifying said devices according to device-dependent  
9 characteristics.

1 15. The computer program product of claim 11, wherein  
2 instructions for receiving a request from said connected  
3 presentation device for said target document, further  
4 comprises:

5 instructions within said computer program product for  
6 determining whether said peripheral device is known or  
7 unknown.